

## FROM THE FIELD.

## Waterloo, Iowa.

My last correspondence was at Alpena, Dakota, where at the time I was engaged in a revival meeting.

On the 25th of November, we held a pleasant communion at that place and on the 26th we closed there with five accessions.

Early on the morning of the 27th of November, in the conveyance of the hospitable Bro. Cornelius Miller, we started across the country for an eighty miles ride to his fine home sixteen miles south of Kimball.

As we ascended the Washington hills, and finally from the top, we turned and looked to the east. The sight that greeted us led the mind back to the promised land when Moses stood on Mt. Pisgah and saw the place toward which he had been pressing for forty years.

Grand indeed; thousands of acres of fertile prairie stretching out before us, dotted with houses and in places cities and towns could be seen.

The booming and prospective capitol of south Dakota, Huron, could be seen to the south east while no less than six or seven smaller towns were visible to the naked eye, while with a glass one might have seen four times as many places.

But we can not tarry longer here, so away we go to the southwest over a rolling prairie and finally we pull up at the home of Bro. John Miller, who was formerly one of my playmates. Here we spent the night and revived past memories.

Early in the morning we are on our way again and soon arrive at the town of Kimball, which is a typical western town. Get and hold what you have seems to be the motto of the people at this place.

Here I met some of my past friends and enjoyed their society very much. Found one of my past preceptors in business and he is accumulating the dollars in a way that would turn a hundred dollar salaried preacher green with envy.

His name is Steven Snider and he and his estimable wife say that we can count them with us so soon as a church is organized in that country.

Soon we are on our way to the south and finally we pull up at the fine home of Cornelius Miller whose hospitality every one can enjoy and no one better than a preacher.

Preached a few sermons at this place but just as the interest began to grow, was compelled to leave and fill an appointment at Kimball where I was greeted by a small but appreciative audience. From here we went six miles north of Kimball where I preached four sermons.

One confessed her willingness to walk nearer to God at this place. At this place there are four members of the "Brethren" church.

From here, according to promise, in the company of Bro. Frank Whipkey, went back to Bro. C. Miller's where I preached just one week and received into full fellowship six of the most influential persons of that country. Besides them there are four more applicants that will be baptized so soon as a church is organized at this place.

Thence to Bijon hills where I

received two by relation and two more will be with us inside of a year according to promise.

After visiting a few days with friends went back to Alpena where I preached one week more and received five more in full fellowship with two applicants. Closed amidst the best of interest.

Received into the church while in Dakota thirteen by baptism; six by relation with eight more applicants.

One remarkable feature of the work was the ingathering of public men. I do not believe in the union of church and state but love to see christain men at the reins of our government.

Of the number received there was one Territorial Representative, two county supervisors, four school directors and one squire.

We have no better field for work in the world than that of Dakota.

Now as to the country.—It is a grand farming country and will in time be a grand place.

Persons in modern circumstances who would like to build themselves a home and especially ministers always are welcome and fare very well. Some of our ministers who have families could do no better than go to that country and get them a home. If there are any that would like to inquire as to the country, write to Cornelius Miller at Kimball, Dakota, who will gladly answer any questions you may ask.

I was in the Territory just a little over five weeks and must say I never saw finer weather or finer prairie.

Brother if you want to help the cause of Christ along go up there and preach the unsearchable riches of Christ to those people who are so eager for the truth. "Go ye into all the world" says Jesus; he also says "if you love me keep my commandments." Are you obeying him? If not be up and doing "the time is short."

Started for my home at Waterloo, Iowa on Dec. 31 and spent the night with friends at Aurelia, Iowa, and on Jan. 1st arrived home where I found all enjoying a Happy New Year.

Excuse me for particularizing so much in this letter. May God bless all who are working for Jesus.

E. L. HILDEBRAND.

## Virginia Notes.

The Brethren at Maurertown had a beautiful Christmas tree in the new church at that place on Wednesday evening, the 26th of December. It was a Sunday School entertainment and was a complete success. Bro C. W. Philips, the superintendent, and Bro. A. G. Shaver did much towards the success of the school and beautifying the Christmas tree. The house was crowded to overflowing, many persons could not get in at all. It was estimated that about fifty dollars of presents were on the tree. The school brought an organ for the church and have it about paid for. Bro. Philips has been re-elected superintendent for another year.

Bro. Bowman sometime ago asked through the EVANGELIST what I had to say about the College. I take this way to answer and say I have already cast in a mite, and certainly most heartily desire the College to be saved to the Brethren, which I notice is well nigh accomplished. We in

this part of Virginia, at least, have about all we can do at present and for years to keep our heads above water. By this I don't mean to say that we are in a sinking condition, but the ocean is so limitless and the crew so weak, inexperienced, and indolent, and so few in number, that we feel that it is about all we can do to steer our own craft to shore. We have only one church house from Harrisonburg, Va., to above Hagerstown, Md., a distance of about one hundred miles, and from West Virginia to the Gulf of Mexico. So you see that we have need of all and more money than is at our command. We need now four or five new churches in a radius of forty miles, and we need a home missionary to go out and preach at places where there are many calls that the pastor cannot fill. We have a pastor to support and we try to observe the injunction from the Lord to not let the right hand know what the left hand doeth, and besides this keep the wolf from the door at home. Of course others have, perhaps, far more to do and do it, but we feel as if this is about all we can do at present.

Somebody made the statement that when God said He made the earth in six days and rested the seventh, that perhaps, a day meant an age. The first chapter of Genesis tells us that God created the earth and all therein in six days and He rested the seventh day. In Exodus 20th chapter we are commanded to do likewise, work six days and rest the seventh. Then if God made the earth in six days or ages, and rested the seventh day or seventh age, and we are commanded to do likewise, who of us have worked six days and rested the seventh age? None of us have obeyed either command.

It is quite probable that we will need a pastor at this place, and I understood that Bro. George Rinker of Warren county had resigned or intends to resign his pastorate. I suppose on account of age, or perhaps insufficient support. We are pretty certain to need a minister for one, and perhaps both places. If both, I would suggest that both congregations unite and compensate a minister to fill both charges. Such a plan would be better for the pastor and parishoners, in a pecuniary point of view, and I think the work could be done effectually.

GEO. A. COPP.

Fisher's Hill, Va.

## College of St. James, Md.

Dec. 30.—At 11:30 we were called to the station to see, perhaps the last of Bro. I. D. Bowman and family in this life and to bid them farewell. Brethren and sisters it is sad to bid farewell here, but we have a hope of meeting again over on the ever-green shore, where parting is known no more, if we live the life of the righteous. I was one among the first at the station and while standing on the platform, looking at his many friends coming in from almost every direction, I was made to think of the day when Christ shall come to call his children from the four winds of the earth.

About the 20th of Dec. was two years since we first made our acquaintance with Bro. B., and since that time he has been a faithful worker in our midst, and

has made many warm friends, both in and out of the church. While we wish the College success, we do feel sad to lose our minister.

We met at the church on Sunday evening for prayer meeting, and in connection therewith we organized a Bible class, which we think will be more interesting for the brethren.

On Thursday Jan. 3, we held our regular quarterly business meeting. We opened our meeting by singing and prayer. We then proceeded to choose some one to fill Bro. Bowman's place until the first of April, and Bro. Joshua Long was chosen. Next in order was to determine on some one to take charge of the congregation after April. Brethren named several brethren, and then voted by ballot and the congregation decided unanimously for Bro. E. B. Shaver, of Virginia. Brethren and sisters, though we have lost a faithful worker we believe we have one equally able to fill the vacancy.

As this is the beginning of a new year let us take fresh courage and fight harder for the cause of Christ in the future than we have in the past. Let us buckel on the armor of Christ, and the battle never give over until the victory is won. Though dark hours may come yet if Christ be the captain of our salvation, let us look forward with the eye of faith for our captain says fight on, ye Christian soldiers until the cross you obtain and the crown is won. May God bless us and save us all.

JOS. F. MULLEN.

## Downsville, Maryland.

I have just read our dear, good Bro. Bowman's report of our Downsville meeting. But he failed to say he had one applicant after he closed the meeting, who was baptized by Bro. Joshua Long. So in all we had five additions. I had called for help from Bro. E. B. Shaver to come and close our meeting, but he being away from home, did not receive my letter in time to answer, but as we did not get the telegram, we closed our meeting on Saturday evening. On Monday morning just before Bro. Bowman took train for Ashland, Bro. E. B. S. made his appearance. We had closed our meeting then, so Bro. Shaver wanted to pull for Maurertown, but Bro. Emmerts and I plead with him to hold a few meetings at Funks-town, which he did. Results, five additions: four by baptism, one by relation. Also had one grand good girl to stand up for Jesus, but as there was some opposition she was not baptized. But the clouds will clear away.

So by the stir of Bro. Bowman and Shaver, we are strengthened by ten good members with a grand influence spread around.

As Bro. Shaver had an appointment in Philadelphia, we had to close his meeting too soon, but he is coming back ere long.

At our regular business meeting, which was well attended, and all are interested, we called Bro. E. B. Shaver as our pastor for one year from April 1st. Bro. Joshua Long fills the appointments to April 1st, after which he, Bro. Shaver, and the other ones will fight the battle in Maryland and the border of Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Yours for the cause,

T. J. FAHNEY.

Jan. 10, 1889.

## OUR CHURCH.

Bro. I. D. Bowman is expected to preach at the College next Lord's day.

Bro. E. L. Hildebrand should take another missionary tour through Dakota.

Dr. A. J. Blough sends a splendid list of subscribers from Milledgeville, Ill.

Bro. Josiah Keim, we suppose, is now busy holding a meeting at Winchester, Ohio.

We have a good letter for the College from Brighton, Ind. It will be published next week.

Bro. McFaden is busy at Johnstown, and sinners are coming home to the Father's house.

We sympathize with Bro. D. Lichty, whose youngest son died on the morning of the 9th. But God will take care of the jewels. He resides at Lanark, Ill.

Sister E. L. Yoder is now in Pennsylvania, visiting her old home, parents and many friends in the old strong hold of progression—Berlin.

The Sabbath School of Mason-town, Pa., lead by sister M. M. Sterling is doing a grand work in the way of giving entertainments to pay off church debts.

Bro. Harrington and brethren in and near Lanark, Ill. are conducting a thriving Sabbath school in the historic village. That village will become a Brethren strong hold in time.

Bro. J. H. Swihart is having a very successful meeting at College Corner, Ind., and seeing that it would not be well to stop as he had arranged, he will not commence at Dunlap, Ind., as soon as he expected.

Bro. Josiah Keim expected to commence a protracted meeting at Winchester, in the Miami Valley last week. After it has ended he expects to assist in holding one at his home church, Louisville, Ohio.

Bro. J. B. Rittgers, desires us to publish that "If any congregation of the Brethren has not employed a minister for the New Year can address me at Brashers, Hocking, Co., O., and will find me waiting for a charge. —REV. J. B. RITTGERS."

A card from Cambria, Ind., bearing date of Jan. 10th, says: Bro. Bashor is here at work and the whole country is being aroused. Last Sunday night the house was crowded to its fullest capacity. Many occupying standing room. Our church which seats about four hundred was almost as full Monday night. Since Monday it has rained or snowed nearly all the time and the attendance has been smaller. But today is clear and cold, and though the roads are rough we anticipate a large attendance again tonight. There are some to baptize and others almost persuaded. The meeting is full of promise and the church itself is undergoing a revival; cold members are being warmed up and difficulties between brethren have been settled. With good weather we will have a most gracious demonstration of the spirit.

Eld. Wm. Saddler died at his residence, several miles north of Ashland, Tuesday, Jan. 7th after a long and dreadful experience with cancer. His funeral was held on Friday, Jan. 11th, at the German Baptist church north of Ashland. He was afflicted with the disease for several years and tried every remedy that he thought might possibly cure him. But everything failed and the disease gradually consumed his face until the brain was exposed and his natural appearance was totally destroyed. Mr. Saddler was well known in this locality as a minister and elder of the Tunker church. He did some traveling as a minister in his earlier days, and at one time took an active part in conducting the affairs of Ashland (Concluded on last page.)